

O/D/OIT Routing Slip

Date 4/10

Action Info Seen

D			
DD			
DD-M			
DD-O			
Nancy			
Mimi			
Yolanda			
SA/D&E			
A&TPS			
C/NBPO			
C/IISG			
C/NSG			
C/NSEG			
C/MISG			
C/GOG			
C/ESG			
C/DFG			
C/M&CG			
C/AS			
HRP			
Destroy			

COMMENT:

*C/MD -
 Do we have
 a file for this
 kind of info or
 should we toss
 it? Other Gov't Agency-MISC? ?
 Don*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: April 9, 1986

NOTE TO: Information *D/OIT*

SUBJECT: Department of Agriculture Procurement

EDS responded to Agriculture's RFP and bid AT&T PC's. The AT&T 6300 is an imported Olivetti-made IBM PC compatible.

The bid was for \$220 million for a 10 year systems life (parts, maintenance, software maintenance, training, manuals, etc.). The proposals were due March 1985 and award was made in September 1985. The machines will be installed over a 2-3 year time frame.

This includes "departmental" computing. EDS will install the AT&T 3B2, a UNIX-based minicomputer. These will be installed nationwide and the entire system will have something like 3000 sites. There will be 1-8 workstations attached to each minicomputer. The mini uses X.25 to communicate with an IBM host located in Kansas City.

IBM did not bid on this RFP. Two weeks before the bids were due, IBM-FSD decided not to bid, because they did not have the products they have today (RT) and did not have the required UNIX system. IBM was not aware of any 3270 requirement, except for an optional 3270 communications protocol for the line between the mini and the host. (However, this is apparently not the choice.)

The AT&T 6300 may accomodate a 3270 emulator board (like the Zenith). The 6300 is IBM PC compatible and it is faster. It operates as a terminal or as a personal computer. It does not have API (Application Program Interface), it provides no opportunity for CAM emulation, therefore it would not run our legacy software. It would not offer future cooperative processing opportunities between the mainframe and the PC.

The local IDMS system PROBABLY operates with the emulator board and uses the device as a dumb 3270 terminal.

I am grateful to Ken Williams (IBM), and Creative Computing Magazine for this information. I do not plan to pursue it further unless I receive other advice.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~